work must have been popular in its day, and we have repeatedly referred to it as containing much that is put forth in latter days as new.

Dr. F. gives a very excellent and appreciative analysis of Dr. Currie's volumes, compares the views of the author with those of the advocates of this therapeutic measure in modern times, and finally presents the results of his own experience.

He states that he has had considerable experience in this mode of refrigeration at Bellevue Hospital, and he says it has proved more successful than any other treatment.

The internal use of water, as a remedial measure, irrespective of the action of cold, is worthy, Dr. F. thinks, of more attention than it has received. "A source of more or less benefit, derived often from the so-called mineral springs and artificial waters, seems to me to have been overlooked; namely, the usefulness of simple water ingested in considerable or large quantity. Undoubtedly much of the benefit which is received by those who drink mineral waters at the watering places is attributable to the change of scene, relaxation, the expectation of improved health, freedom from business and other cares, together with sanitary advantages pertaining to climate, regimen, and diet. But aside from these it is fair to attribute something, and perhaps not a little, to the drinking of the waters. It is evidence of this that mineral waters brought from the springs and those artificially prepared are often beneficial to those who remain at home. That the benfit may be due, measurably or chiefly, to the water and not to the medicinal constituents is shown by the fact that some waters supposed to possess extraordinary remedial potency have no medicinal constituents. The Missisquoi water, a few years since was famous for the cure of cancerous and other affections, was analayzed by Squibb, and found to be only remarkably pure water. In not a few of the waters which have acquired a popular repute the saline ingredients are either without effect or their effect must be insignificant; pure water substituted would do quite as well, if not better. If this be so, it is well to consider if medical practice might not with advantage avail itself more than is now done of the remedial agency of the internal use of water. And in connection with this topic the importance of the purity of water suggests itself, to which I allude merely to raise the inquiry whether the introduction of distilled water for drinking and culinary purposes might not be a wiser measure in both a sanitary and a therapeutical point of view. In this essay I can do no more than to raise the inquiry." In cases of renal disease Dr. F. adds his testimony to the efficacy of water used internally as sometimes proving a potential remedy.

Injections of Tincture of Iodine into the Cavity of the Uterus in Hemorrhage after Delivery.—The *Am. Journ. of Obstetrics*, Feb. 1875) contains an interesting article on this subject by Dr. James D. Trask. After referring to the diversity of sentiment entertained as to the safety of injections of the solution of the perchloride of iron in *post-partum* hemorrhages, he ascribes to Dr. Dupierris, of Havana, the credit of first employing injections of tincture of iodine for that purpose (see *N. A. Medico-Chirurg. Review*, vol. i., Philad., 1857). The mode in which all the remedies act which are ordinarily employed for checking uterine hemorrhage, Dr. Trask considers to be essentially the same, viz., by stimulating the muscles of the womb to contraction, causing compression of the bloodvessels and cessation of the flow. The styptic preparations of iron he considers to act mainly in this manner, as does also the tincture of iodine; he regards the latter, however, as the safer application. "In comparison," he says, "with *iron*, tincture of iodine has the advantage, so far as we now know, of being perfectly safe; at any rate, free from the evils incident to the employment of iron. Besides this we have the direct antiseptic influence of the iodine upon the uterine and vaginal mucous membrane. The application of iodine to the lining membrane of the uterus is, probably, of all things the surest means of counteracting a tendency to absorption of septic matter into the system after delivery. Since adopting the practice of injecting tr. iodine after operations upon the interior of the uterus, Dr. Emmet has not encountered a single case of septicæmia. As contrasted with the salts of iron in this respect, it would seem as if there could be no room for hesitation in the choice. From the local action of iodine not only is nothing to be feared, but even advantage to be anticipated, while from the local action of iron much may be apprehended. As an excito-motor agent, iodine is probably at least equally good, while incapable of causing the formation of thrombi in the uterine vessels. In view of these facts one would feel justified in resorting to the iodine earlier than to the iron, and in this respect also an advantage may be gained for the patient, since the use of iron is expressly limited to cases deemed hopeless under ordinary management."

The following is a brief summary of what Dr. Trask seeks to show in this paper:—

"1. That a very considerable proportion of cases in which the injection of salts of iron has apparently saved life, have been those in which it accomplished this end not in virtue of its local styptic action, but because of its power to excite reflex action when cold, friction, pressure, etc., have failed.

"2. That when it produces coagulation of blood in the orifices of the blood-vessels there is danger that the coagulation may follow the vessels into the substance of the uterus, producing dangerous thrombi, and that the blood already collected in the cavity of the uterus also may become converted into a hard, intractable coagulum which the uterus cannot expel, and which may, after a few days, decompose and give rise to septicæmia.

"3. That there is evidence for believing that as an excitor of dormant reflex action, tinct. iodine may be substituted for the iron with positive advantage, from its efficiency as an excitor and from its antiseptic properties.

"If these points are established, the use of iron salts in a solution sufficiently strong to induce coagulation of blood in the uterine vessels should, at any rate, not be resorted to until tinct. iodine has been tried and failed.

"In conclusion, I would distinctly disavow the position of claiming positively for iodine a superiority over the iron. More facts are needed to warrant this. I have simply sought to present the considerations that render it extremely probable that the one will be found an advantageous substitute for the other, when it shall have received at the hands of the profession a sufficient trial."

Motor Centres in the Cerebral Convolutions.—The *New York Medical Journal* for March, contains the report of a committee of the New York Society of Neurology and Electrology, consisting of Drs. J. C. Dalton, J. W. S. Arnold, Geo. M. Beard, A. Flint, Jr., and John M. Mason, on the above subject.

The observations of the Committee confirm the most important of the results obtained by Hitzig and those who have followed him in this line of experiment.

"There is no doubt," the Committee say, "that there are certain limited spots upon the surface of the cerebral convolutions which, when subjected, in the etherized animal, to a weak galvanic current, will cause distinct momentary contraction of separate muscles, or groups of muscles, on the opposite side of the body.

"The same galvanic stimulus, applied to other points, not more than five millimetres distant, will be entirely without effect; and, when reapplied to the former spot, will again produce the same contractions as before.

"The number of the repetitions of particular contractions following galvanization of particular points leaves no question as to the reality of the connection between them.

"In repeated instances, corresponding points upon the right and left sides of the brain act experimentally as centres of motion for similar groups of muscles on the left and right sides of the body. We cannot say that in all cases this bilateral correspondence of the cerebral centres of motion is complete; although it may be so in reality, since the two sides of the brain in the dog are never exactly symmetrical, as regards either the fissures or the convolutions.

"The action of the cerebral convolutions in producing muscular contraction, when this contraction is definite and limited, is always a crossed action; galvanization of the convolutions on either side of the brain exciting movement in the muscles, both of the limbs and face, on the opposite side of the body.